

## WORK OF TORNADO TERRIBLE SIGHT

Passengers on Train Describe  
Frightful Spectacle They  
Witnessed.

### HORRORS ON EVERY SIDE

They See Great, Dark Cloud  
Skipping Weirdly About on  
Mission of Destruction.

Chicago, March 24.—Stories replete with thrills and pathos were related in Chicago to-day by eyewitnesses of the tornado.

Terror-stricken, the narrators of these stories had sat fascinated in the coaches of a Chicago, Burlington and Quincy railroad train watching a dark cloud skipping weirdly on its work of destruction. In several villages they helped pick up the dead and dying.

The wounded and dead were placed on seats and in the aisles of the cars until the train, which had passed through the beginning of the track of the whirlwind that struck Omaha reached the latter city.

On the way in the injured told tales of suffering and gave vivid descriptions of scenes which seemed to them miraculous. William Coon, of Lincoln, Neb., gave a graphic description as he viewed it from the platform of the observation car.

"For miles," he said, "it seemed as if the train were being pursued by the storm. We were approaching Ralston, Neb., when I first noticed a copper-colored cloud mounting toward the sky. The cloud grew rapidly, and was traveling at tremendous speed. It assumed the form of a funnel, and the air was filled with a curious noise, very piercing. The funnel seemed to grow black, and the smaller end—that near the ground—was about a half mile in diameter. It swished across the railroad track; then struck the town. Houses collapsed as if made of paper. The roofs sailed away and the sides fell in. As the passengers comprehended the desolation wrought, a cry of horror went up. It was a terrible sight.

"Then the train stopped and the passengers ran over to the wreckage of the houses. We could hear the groans of dying men. Injured women and children were moaning. We got all of the injured out of the ruins and brought them to the train. We were about to leave when our attention was called to a little house some distance from the others. It had been wrecked and moved from its foundation, but we found a mother and her baby lying upon a bed uninjured. Another man was in a basement of the house. His house was carried away, and he was left standing with a very surprised look on his face, uninjured.

Houses were rolled and tumbled along the ground by the wind. I saw a box car carried along by the terrific air current for a quarter of a mile. When it split open six or seven men, who turned out to be part of a repair gang, dropped out.

"The next town we passed through was Benson, where the scenes were still more appalling. Several large factories there were strewn in heaps. We picked up a lot of injured, and I don't know how many dead we left behind. Then the cloud wheeled, made toward South Omaha. We were not far behind, but our way was blocked by debris the tornado had thrown on the tracks."

Another passenger was Mrs. George J. H. Alderent, of Syracuse, N. Y. "When the houses began to fall," she said, "I saw a little girl dressed in white start from one of them and run down the street with her hands above her head. Just then the side of a house came soaring through the air. It struck the child and buried her beneath it."

Another eyewitness was a Chicagoan, who told of the scenes at Omaha, when the train stopped there. He said:

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You can dance to the latest music played in perfect time and with the very best of the orchestra in your own home. Surely your next dance will be a success if you have a VICTOR or VICTOR-VICTROLA to supply the music.

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goan, who told of the scenes at Omaha, when the train stopped there. He said: "I was just recovering from what I had seen on the train when we pulled into Omaha with the injured. It was night then—but such a night—the sky was lighted with a great red glare and the streets were filled with frightened people. It was raining a deluge. Frequently the cries of the wounded unloaded at the station were drowned by terrific peals of thunder. "The town is burning." We'll all be killed," some kept crying, and this added to the others' fears. There was talk of the night for many of the passengers. As our train left Omaha we could see a big hotel burning."

## DELEGATES FROM VIRGINIA NAMED

Appointed by Governor to Attend  
National Drainage Congress  
in St. Louis.

Governor Mann has appointed the following delegates to the Third National Drainage Congress, which is to be held at the Planters Hotel, St. Louis, Mo., April 10, 11 and 12: Senator John A. Leaser, Norfolk; Dr. D. Starbuck, Henrico; E. C. Hoening, Richmond; J. G. Tinsley, Henrico; Edmund Christian, Norfolk; R. R. Randolph, Northwest; Second Auditor Rosewell Page, Hanover; A. A. Wrenn, York; Colonel W. W. Old, Jr., Norfolk; W. E. Snyder, Ellersburg; L. E. Brothers, Fentress; P. W. Sawyer, Mountcastle; William Milholland, Norfolk; Joseph R. Ives, Norfolk; Littlebury Hixson, Providence Forge.

The object of this meeting is to have the United States Congress take immediate action to create a National Drainage Commission with ample powers and funds immediately available to evolve and put into effect a comprehensive national plan for:

1. The protection of the public welfare, by drainage and reclamation, of the 75,000,000 acres of swamp and overflowed lands in the United States and their utilization for agricultural purposes;
2. The protection, by drainage and reclamation, of the public health, which is constantly menaced by the existence of these swamps;
3. The protection, by levee construction and other means, of the people and their lives, homes and lands from floods, storms and tides;
4. The protection of the financial interests of the United States, the various States and the individual land owners, by co-operation and an equitable sharing of the expense of carrying out this plan, in proportion to the benefits received.

## WORK KEPT SECRET FOR MANY HOURS

With Wires Prostrate, News of  
Destruction Is Kept From  
World.

### MESSAGES SENT BY TRAIN

Communication Already Paralyzed  
When Second Storm  
Comes Along.

[By Associated Press.]

Chicago, Ill., March 24.—By far the greatest damage was done in and near Omaha, through part of which a tornado swept Sunday evening, throwing down many substantial buildings, ripping off roofs and sidings of hundreds of houses and killing men and children by the score.

The storm kept its work a secret from the rest of the world for hours by breaking down all wire communication. Messengers with news stories had to go by train to Lincoln, the State capital, and out to the first definite news of the disaster.

During the early hours of the morning injured persons worked despairingly to remove persons caught beneath razed buildings. The debris caught fire in many places, and many persons were painfully burned before they could be extricated.

No great number was killed in any one place. The wind swept along, taking its toll here and there. The tornado even jumped over portions of the city in its path, swooped down again and dashed obstructions to earth.

The gale left Omaha only to sweep on to towns in Iowa in the same destructive manner that it had attacked villages in Nebraska. The rage of the elements even extended in the East to Illinois. No sooner had the twister passed than a gale swept over much the same territory, but with lessened fury.

What seems to have been a separate storm swept portions of Indiana, being greatest in and near Terre Haute. There nearly a score of persons were slain and hundreds were hurt. Other places in Indiana report lesser damage.

The sleet and wind storm of the last few days had reduced telegraph and telephone companies to dire straits, as hundreds of poles and thousands of miles of wire were carried down in a tangle. The Easter tornado added to the havoc west of Chicago, although wires were repaired to the east. In many cases large regions were unable to use commercial telegraphic facilities and news associations were compelled to send reports in the most unusual ways to reach the newspapers.

Floods swept through several Wisconsin cities, damaging many thousands of dollars' worth of property. They were washed out in many places and the released waters swept over the fields below.

In Chicago, all the elements seemed to meet shortly after Easter Sunday had closed. Wind blew a violent gale, snow fell before it in some places, hail crashed windows in other parts of the city. After the storms had passed, the wind died to a gentle breeze, the sun shone brightly, and the warmth of the spring pervaded the air.

### CHARGE, DRUNK, DISORDERLY AND RESISTING POLICEMEN

John J. Perry, H. G. Goodman and W. A. Perry were arrested yesterday afternoon about 5:30 o'clock for being drunk and disorderly and resisting policemen. Jordan Waymack and Green. These three men are said to have interfered with workmen at Seventh and Canal Streets. Officer Jordan was summoned. He had trouble with them, and Waymack and Green called his assistance. It was necessary for the officers to use their clubs before the trio was landed in the First Police Station.

## QUACK DOCTORS REAPING HARVEST

They Are Professing to Have  
Supply of Dr. Friedmann's  
Vaccing.

### POOR PEOPLE ROBBED

German Physician Indignant  
When He Learns of Methods  
Being Used.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

New York, March 24.—Information came to Dr. Friedrich Franz Friedmann to-day from several sections of the United States that quack physicians are claiming to have a supply of the "Friedmann vaccine" and are multitudes of victims of thousands of dollars by injecting the fake fluid.

So far as discovered, the spurious medical men are operating in Detroit, Cleveland, Denver, Erie, Pa., and in California. In Cleveland a poor woman, a widow, paid one of the quacks \$500 to be given the "Friedmann treatment." Similar cases have been reported where the rewards reaped by the impostors have ranged from \$10 to \$1,000.

To-day Dr. Friedmann received a wire from Dr. Sherman Williams, president of the State Board of Health of Colorado, stating that a certain physician in Needles, a town near the Arizona line, composed principally of white plague victims, is claiming to have a quantity of the Friedmann vaccine.

"Is this true and are you distributing the vaccine?" wired Dr. Williams. Dr. Friedmann's answer was that only himself and Dr. Carl Ludwig Schleich of Berlin, besides the American government, have any of his vaccine. Only Dr. Friedmann and Professor Schleich are able to make proper injections at present.

"This is damnable," exclaimed Dr. Friedmann, discussing the activities of the quacks. "I should not care but for the fact that they are cheating the poor. No one is so low as the robber of the weak and the sick. If possible, I should like to proceed in court against these rascals and punish them as they deserve. In the meantime I should like to warn the poor and ignorant people to whom they are appealing. People who go to these quacks should be careful of the result. Further inquiries are likely to be made upon their health by such criminal treatment."

"I have not given one drop of my vaccine to one private physician, and if I had, they would not be able to use it. For only Professor Schleich and myself know how to properly make the difficult second injection. However, before I go to Europe I shall make arrangements so that second injections will be made in the case of all patients I have treated and intend to treat before my departure. The date of my departure has not been set yet."

Dr. Friedmann made an emphatic denial to-day of the declaration of a local physician that the German specialist has resorted to hypnotism in treating tuberculosis patients with "turtle vaccine."

"I do not make any claim that the patients suffering from tuberculosis of the bone who have shown immediate improvement, in so far as the movement of the limbs is concerned, have been cured by my treatment. I make no claim whatever as to immediate cure. In no case, however, so far as I am concerned, has there been any hypnotism. There is no doubt that those patients who have been able to move diseased joints have been subjects of autohypnosis or hypnotic anesthesia. On the other hand, however, there has not been even a suggestion to lead to this result."

Dr. Friedmann spent to-day visiting the local hospitals for the purpose of selecting patients for his treatment. He demonstrated his treatment. He selected about twenty patients for future clinics. Fifteen sufferers from various forms of bone tuberculosis have been selected for to-morrow's clinic at the hospital for deformities and joint diseases, which is to take place under the observation of the United States government physicians.

## WILSON WIRES HIS OFFER OF AID

President Is Very Anxious Over  
Welfare of People in Storm  
District.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

Washington, March 24.—President Wilson exhibited great anxiety to-day concerning the safety and welfare of the residents of the storm-stricken sections of the West and Middle West. Early this morning he personally dictated a message to James C. Dahlgren, mayor of Omaha, asking of government aid was desired.

This afternoon the following reply was received from Mayor Dahlgren: "The President: We deeply appreciate your offer of assistance, but our people are responding nobly, and we believe we can handle the situation. Major Hartman and his men of Fort Omaha came promptly to our assistance, and are doing great work in the situation. The people of Omaha desire, however, to express their gratitude to you for your message of sympathy."


E. P. Bicknell, national director of the Red Cross, left to-day for Omaha to take personal charge of relief measures. Prior to his departure Mr. Bicknell telegraphed the governor of Nebraska, asking of him aid on the extent of the suffering entailed by the tornado, and offering immediate assistance, including the dispatch of Red Cross nurses to the stricken city.

Police Board Meets To-Night.  
A special meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners will be held to-night at 8:15 o'clock for the purpose of filling a vacancy on the force.

Arrested for Wife-Beating.  
James Epps, colored, fell from a car of a stonecutters, of 2218 West Cary Street, was arrested yesterday by Motorcycle Officer Samuelson on a warrant charging him with beating his wife.

Negro Falls From Car.  
James Epps, colored, fell from a car of the Broad and Twenty-fifth Street line yesterday afternoon at Seventeenth and Broad Streets and hurt about the head. He was treated by Dr. H. T. Hawkins, City Hospital ambulance surgeon.

Gardner Wins First Round.  
Philadelphia, March 24.—E. W. Gardner, East Orange, N. J., defeated J. E. Cope, Morton, Philadelphia, to-night in the first round of the amateur billiard tournament of the National Association of Amateur Billiard Players for a championship of America. The score was 400 to 113.



**The Times Dispatch**  
requests the honor of your presence  
at the formal opening of its  
**New Building**  
on Friday afternoon, March twenty-eighth  
from four to six o'clock  
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## ORGAN GRINDERS BEAT STRAW HATS

Two Most Reliable Harbingers of  
Spring Hit Town on Run, but  
Grinders Get the Mazuma.

The roll has been called and those merrie harbingers of spring, manhandled down the generation by poets, later and poets have all risen up in their gaudy haberdashery and cut loose a lusty "her." Chief among the harbingers, among those who harbinge with the highest per cent of verity, should be mentioned the hand organs and straw hats. Both have skated in on the trail of spring and nestled down in our midst to stick around for quite some days, quite some days.

The foolish, feathered "owls" flying north last week put the spring-likes coming back; the winter has been so short. Senior Bradley only recently talked of sending his baseball club to the Polo Grounds on Manhattan Island for the spring trout, but this idea fell through when the bottom dropped out of the treasury. Tender and fleeing as has been the cold weather, the travelers to the South have not returned without the customary testimonial of the Florida coast, a good sunburn. The motoring craze in the Everglade State has furnished the celebrated Meriden, Conn. hen raconteur with a new story; the hoking geese are arriving home in the North with a great imitation of the new automobile musical horn.

The floating population of Richmond acted like there had been an unusually high tide somewhere last week. It developed, however, that the influx was merely the celebrated harbingers, the hand organs and the monkeys. The organists, justly more famous for perversity than versatility of their repertoire, although there is nothing lacking in their tone, will abide with us and flourish until the sun takes his stand under the open lattice of Charles D. Lee's window. The organists, justly more famous for perversity than versatility of their repertoire, although there is nothing lacking in their tone, will abide with us and flourish until the sun takes his stand under the open lattice of Charles D. Lee's window.

With the spring touch in the air, the monkey's touch is most appealing, and consequently the peripatetic knights of the organ have found in Richmond easy pickings. One master from Southern Italy has created a sensation with a monkey that can catch a mazuma from the Richmond hall club, while another introduced a sensation with an organ that responded to the turn of the handle with the strains of "The Merry Widow." Life has been one long, sweet dream for monkey and master alike; here, except occasionally when a healthy, full-grown dog, with spring in its bones, caught a scent of the simian. A monkey has the same chance with an energetic dog as a snowball at a Fourth of July picnic.

The straw hats have already come back. As chronicled in the columns of The Times-Dispatch on Sunday morning, Manager Weisger allowed a man wearing a straw brany to anchor in a room at the Jefferson Hotel last week. The adventurous stranger got by with his hats by remaining in the cool, sequestered shades of the lobby, and the gent who dares to brave the fallery of the rabble on the street has yet to be found. He is expected to appear at any minute, and Broad Street, exclusive, modest, Parisian Broad Street, is awaiting his advent with bated breath.

## PREPARING TESTS FOR POSTMASTERS

Washington, March 24.—The problem of providing civil service examinations for the thousands of fourth-class postmasters placed under the classified service by executive orders, was taken up at a conference at the Post Office Department to-day. Postmaster-General Burleson, Assistant Secretaries Roper and Dockery, several minor Post-Office Inspectors, officials and Civil Service Commissioner McElhenney went over the situation. Tests will be framed by the department and the Civil Service Commission jointly, and will be submitted to President Wilson for his approval. The order for the examinations would have to come from the President.

The department officials are finding considerable difficulty in arriving at a

## BRINGING PAYLOR TO PENITENTIARY

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]  
Danville, Va., March 24.—William S. Paylor probably will leave this city to-night for Richmond, where he will begin his term in the penitentiary for the embezzlement of State funds. The rest of the prisoners will not be sent for some time, but the deputy sergeant of the court will take Paylor as soon as the papers arrive here.

A lively contest appears imminent over the Paylor reward. It was learned here to-day that Governor Mann has declined to pay the \$200 State reward offered to the person giving information leading to his arrest. His reason for this is not examined. There appears to be two claimants for the reward, John Cook, clerk of the Corporation Court, and another person, whose name has not been divulged.

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When the burden of troubles from coffee drinking becomes too great, and irritable heart, disordered digestion and "fussed-up" nerves are Nature's warning to halt, the natural, easy way back to health and comfort is to stop coffee and use

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A spoonful in a cup of hot water, with sugar and cream to taste, and you have "quick as a wink" a delicious drink.

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